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Subject: R6 Weekly Report

Region 6 Weekly Update 10-11-2018

Hot Topics

Craft Turney Water Supply Corporation, Jacksonville, Texas

On October 3, Craft Turney notified TCEQ of a backflow incident impacting a small portion of the water system causing a fungicide to enter the water supply. A “do not use order” was issued for a limited number of customers but was later expanded as a precaution. Sampling results from October 5 and 6 are being evaluated. The EPA Lab in Houston is testing samples collected on October 10 for Methylene bis-thiocyanate (MBT) analysis. Flushing continues throughout the distribution system in the affected pressure plane. The Region continues to work closely with TCEQ on monitoring the resolution of this situation.

Illinois River Watershed, Oklahoma and Arkansas

As part of our work to help the states address pollution in the Illinois River watershed, EPA has been convening weekly conference calls with both Arkansas and Oklahoma to define next steps to continue to reduce phosphorus levels within the watershed. The states are poised to sign a Memorandum of Agreement to formally outline agreed upon actions and timelines to further improve and protect water quality. Both Governors were scheduled to be briefed this week and signatures are imminent. The MOA is the next step in fulfilling the December 18, 2003 and February 20, 2013 Statement of Joint Principles and Actions.

Texas Regional Haze BART FIP

On Wednesday, September 26, Region 6 held a public hearing to take comment on the proposal to affirm our October 2017 Texas Regional Haze Federal Implementation Plan which was published in the Federal Register on Monday, August 27. Industry representatives and TCEQ spoke in favor of the action, while Environmental Defense Fund and Sierra Club did not support the action. The comment period closes on October 26.

San Jacinto River Waste Pits, Channelview, Texas

On October 16, 2018, EPA intends to conduct a site tour for representatives from the Government Accountability Office (GAO). The GAO was requested by the U.S. Senate to undertake a study on the risks to human health and the environment posed by natural disaster impacts on Superfund sites and potential federal actions to reduce those risks. The GAO selected the site for a case study. As part of their work, GAO also requested a list of stakeholders to interview for balanced perspectives of the issues. EPA will participate in a GAO interview and a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting on October 17, 2018 and plans to provide an update to the CAC on recent repair work conducted on the temporary cap and the status of ongoing remedial design work.

Underground Storage Tank (UST) State Program Approval

By October 13, all Region 6 states must reapply for state approval for the 2015 underground storage tank (UST) regulation and the 2015 state program approval regulation. The 2015 UST regulation changes certain portions of the 1988 underground storage tank technical regulation in 40 CFR part 280. The Oklahoma program was approved earlier this year. Texas will not meet the October 13 deadline, but the remainder of the R6 states will.

Bird Creek Settlement, Osage County, Oklahoma

EPA continues work on the technical terms of the settlement with the Respondents to address brine releases, DOJ is preparing a draft settlement document, which will have draft versions of the Respondents' UIC injection well permits attached. These draft settlement terms are under EPA review, and will also undergo a public comment period of 35 days. EPA staff will conduct another data download the week of October 15th at the Bird Creek area of concern.

Texas Gulf Terminals, Gulf of Mexico

By October 17, Texas Gulf Terminals will be notified that its Section 112(g) Case-by-Case MACT application has been determined to be complete.

Major Decisions and Events**Pueblo of Zia, New Mexico**

By October 31, EPA anticipates approval of the Pueblo of Zia's Clean Air Act Treatment in the Same Manner as a State (TAS) application.

Arkansas Regional Haze Phase II SIP Revision, Arkansas

By October 26, EPA intends to propose action on ADEQ's Regional Haze Phase II SIP revision that addresses SO₂ and PM BART requirements for EGUs and to withdraw the FIP requirements for those sources. Sierra Club is challenging the state's submission of the final SIP to EPA because of the lack of legislative review and approval.

SO₂ Redesignation Request, Independence County, Arkansas

By October 26, EPA intends to propose action on a May 11, 2018 request from Governor Hutchinson of Arkansas for redesignation of Independence County from unclassifiable to unclassifiable/attainment based on new modeling. This is expected to be the first such action in the country.

October 15-17

National RA Quarterly Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana

October 24

Louisiana Air and Waste Management Association Annual Conference Baton Rouge, Louisiana